



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTN DOCKET : RM.HPN
APPLICANTS : Akira Osawa
SERIAL NO. : 09/293,509
FILED : April 15, 1999
FOR : Gaming Machine

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OCT 11 2002

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Commissioner For Patents
Attn: Box CPA
Washington, D.C. 20231

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been forwarded via First Class Mail,, postage prepaid mail to the Commissioner for Patents, Attn: Box CPA, Washington, D.C. 20231 on October 7, 2002.

BENITA J. ROHM
BENITA J. ROHM, REG. NO. 28,664

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

S I R :

In compliance with the duty of disclosure according to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, §1.97, and §1.98, Applicant presents herein prior art references which are believed at this time to be relevant to the subject matter of the instant patent application. Copies of the references, which are listed in the annexed PTO-1449 (equivalent) form, are enclosed.

The enclosed references were cited to mirror the art cited in co-pending application, U.S. Serial No. 09/268,960.

Ref. BF, which is laid-open Japanese Patent Application JP No. 61-113488, is in the Japanese language. This reference was cited in the text of the specification of co-pending application U.S. Serial No. 09/268,960. The relevance of the Japanese language text was discussed therein at page 2, line 6 as follows:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
USSN 09/293,509;RM.HPN

One known approach to maintaining player interest in playing the gaming machine is to provide a further game on the same gaming machine, the further game being different from the primary game and displayed on another display device. One example of this arrangement is described in Japanese Patent Application Kokai (Laid-Open) No. 61-113488 which discloses a slot bingo game machine wherein numeral displays of the slot game are used as selection numbers of a "bingo game." In this manner, the intensity added by the bingo game played enhances the slot game.

In this known arrangement, however, the slot game is used as a mere additional function to the bingo game in the gaming machine disclosed in the above reference, and therefore, the problem of eventual monotony with the gaming machine is not overcome. In addition, the display of the bingo game is fixed and less variable than that of the slot game. Moreover, variation in the display of the bingo game occurs only when the predetermined symbols become aligned on a predetermined line of the variable portion of the principal display. Therefore, the maintenance of player interest in the gaming machine has not been improved by the known arrangement.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with a request for a Continued Prosecution Application. Accordingly, no fee is required.

In the event that a fee is due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account 50-0720.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner examine the present application, allow the claims, and pass the application for issue. If the Examiner believes that the prosecution of this case can be expedited by a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated hereinbelow.

Dated: October 7, 2002

Respectfully submitted,



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